

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A balloon comprising~~balloon, comprising:
an envelope made of translucent flexible material and being inflatable by a
gas, gas;
an envelopea mast for supporting the envelope;
support formed by a mast, lighting means formed byhaving at least one
electric lamp arranged inside the ~~envelope, envelope;~~
means for electrical power supply of said lamp, the lamp; and
electro-pneumatic blowing means for inflating the envelope, which is made of
~~translucent flexible material, envelope,~~ wherein ~~the top~~an upper part of the mast passes
vertically through the envelope to give the ~~latter~~envelope a static rigidity at the level of the
diametrically opposed bottom pole and top pole, the mast being hollow and ~~comprising~~
having at least one air outlet orifice in ~~its top~~the upper part to perform inflation of the
envelope by the electro-pneumatic blowing means.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~The balloon according to claim 1, further
comprising means for detecting ~~the wind~~a wind speed outside the envelope, and a control
circuit connected to the means for detecting the wind speed to control the electro-pneumatic
blowing means so as to make ~~the internal~~an internal inflation pressure of the envelope vary
according to the wind speed.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~The balloon according to claim 2, wherein the
control ~~unit~~circuit is arranged to emit either an inflation pressure increase signal when the
wind speed increases or an inflation pressure reduction signal when the wind speed
decreases.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 2, wherein ~~said~~ the means for detecting the wind speed ~~comprise~~ comprises an anemometer arranged at the top of the balloon.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 1, wherein the electro-pneumatic blowing means ~~comprise~~ comprises a variable airflow fan arranged in an electrical cabinet at ~~the feet~~ a foot of the ~~mast (14)~~ mast and connected to ~~the~~ a control circuit by an electrical connection extending inside the mast.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 1, wherein the electric lamp is securedly affixed to ~~the top~~ the upper part of the mast inside the envelope.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 1, wherein the bottom pole ~~18~~ of the envelope acting as traverse for the mast comprises two semi-circular half-flanges associated with a pair of zip fasteners for access to the inside of the envelope.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 4, wherein the top pole of the envelope is equipped with a positioning washer bearing on a circular support plate at ~~the~~ a top of the mast, ~~said~~ the circular support plate also acting as support for the anemometer.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 1, wherein the ~~top~~ upper part of the mast comprises a plurality of rungs constituting an internal ladder between ~~the two~~ the bottom and top poles.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Balloon~~ The balloon according to claim 1, wherein the mast has a compartment subjected to atmospheric pressure for housing a ballast and starting circuit of the lamp, said compartment being separated from ~~the internal~~ an internal duct of the mast by a foam plug so as to enable maintenance of the ballast and starting circuit to be performed without stopping pressurization of the envelope.